

REMARKS

Preliminary Amendment

Applicants' undersigned attorney notes the filing herein of a Preliminary Amendment on January 8, 2002, which filing was not acknowledged in the outstanding Office Action. Should the Preliminary Amendment have failed for some reason to have been entered in the Office file, Applicants' undersigned attorney will be happy to have a true copy thereof hand-delivered to the Examiner.

Information Disclosure Statement

Applicants note the filing of an Information Disclosure Statement herein on October 24, 2001, and note that no copy of the PTO-1449 was returned with the outstanding Office Action. Applicants respectfully request that the information cited on the PTO-1449 (which is the same as that of record to that date in the parent application hereto) be made of record herein.

Restriction Requirement

Claims 1 through 20 are currently pending in the application and are subject to an Election of Species Requirement.

Applicants herein acknowledge the election requirement in the above-referenced application. Applicants hereby elect, without traverse, to prosecute the species of invention as described in FIG. 3. Claims 1-11 are readable upon the species of FIG. 3.

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Applicants respectfully request a prompt action on the merits of claims 1-11 after entry of the above-referenced Preliminary Amendment.

Respectfully submitted,

Katherine A. Hamer

Katherine A. Hamer
Registration No. 47,628
Attorney for Applicants
TRASKBRITT, PC
P. O. Box 2550
Salt Lake City, Utah 84110-2550
Telephone: (801) 532-1922

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